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We enter the trenches after dusk and remain there for three days, when we are relieved by another regt, who remain in for three days & like we have three days rest in billets a little way, not very far, in rear of the trenches. Here we are safe comparatively from rifle fire, but are in constant danger of shells. We were relieved last night & are living in a very dirty French farm, inhabited by two French women & a number of children, in a ruined village. These poor people suffer terribly & another of the children is living with a sprinker here because the Germans burnt her home, & her husband is away fighting. There are only a few houses standing while the remainder being nothing but heaps of bricks & burnt wood, or four black walls, in most cases. Other houses, contain all the furniture, but part of the roof is missing, or large holes are in the walls, as here a shell has made a tour. You cannot imagine the havoc the shells cause, we have done thro. whole towns in ruins, the roads are unsafe at night owing to huge holes in them caused by shells.